

READING BOROUGH COUNCIL

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF ENVIRONMENT AND NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

TO:	TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT SUB-COMMITTEE		
DATE:	14 JANUARY 2016	AGENDA ITEM:	12
TITLE:	SCHOOL EXPANSION AND SUSTAINABLE TRANSPORT UPDATE		
LEAD COUNCILLOR:	TONY PAGE	PORTFOLIO:	STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENT, PLANNING AND TRANSPORT
SERVICE:	TRANSPORTATION & STREETCARE	WARDS:	BOROUGHWIDE
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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to provide a further update to the Sub-Committee on the progress made towards encouraging sustainable travel to school through the development of new Travel Plans for the Primary Schools that are expanding this autumn.
- 1.2 Appendix 1 - list of works identified within the development process.

2. RECOMMENDED ACTION

- 2.1 To note the contents of this report and the list of works as identified in Appendix 1.

3. POLICY CONTEXT

- 3.1 The proposals are in line with current Transport, Education and Planning Policy.
- 3.2 Specifically, the proposals are in line with the objectives set out in The Sustainable Modes of Travel Strategy (SMOTS), March 2010, and the School Expansion and Sustainable Travel in Reading Traffic Management Sub-Committee report, March 2014.

4. THE PROPOSAL

- 4.1 As a part of the development process a number of alterations, works and proposals have already been identified in improving access to the schools being expanded.
- 4.2 Appendix 1 identifies works that have already taken place or will be carried out as a part of the development process and those requested for additional spend of the S106 monies to mitigate the impact of a larger school.

5. CONTRIBUTION TO STRATEGIC AIMS

- 5.1 The delivery of School Travel Plans as outlined in this report help to deliver the following Corporate Plan Service Priorities:
- Providing the best life through education, early help and healthy living.
 - Keeping the town clean, safe, green and active.

6. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AND INFORMATION

- 6.1 Public planning exhibition events were held at each expanding school for parents, pupils, staff and the neighbouring communities in 2014 to inform the community about the proposed building works and their impact. Comments and concerns related to transport issues, particularly parking and extra road traffic were gathered at these events and informed the planning application submissions and the School Travel Plans. Once the Travel Plans are submitted, these are accessible to the public on the Council's website.

7. LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

- 7.1 Any future proposals for waiting and movement restrictions would be advertised under the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984.

8. EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT

- 8.1 In addition to the Human Rights Act 1998 the Council is required to comply with the Equalities Act 2010. Section 149 of the Equalities Act 2010 requires the Council to have due regard to the need to:-
- eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under this Act;
 - advance equality of opportunity between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it;

- foster good relations between persons who share a relevant protected characteristic and persons who do not share it.

8.2 The Council has carried out an equality impact assessment scoping exercise, and considers that the proposals do not have a direct impact on any groups with protected characteristics.

8.3 School travel plans are by their nature inclusive, since they plan for the needs of children, their parents and carers and the wider community around the school neighbourhood. By encouraging active travel, the needs of all people are included in the Travel Plan regardless of car ownership or access to a car. By including pupils in the monitoring and review process, children have a voice in the decisions made. In this way, the Travel Plans will help promote equality, social inclusion and a safe and healthy environment for all.

9. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

9.1 There are no financial implications resulting from this report.

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 The Sustainable Modes of Travel Strategy (SMOTS) March 2010.

10.2 School Expansion and Sustainable Travel in Reading, Traffic Management Sub-Committee report, March 2014 & November 2015.

Appendix 1 - list of works identified within the development process.

Geoffrey Field Infant / Junior Schools

Pedestrian crossing on Northumberland Avenue.
Infants school - 3nr new pedestrian barriers on Northumberland Avenue protecting new pedestrian entrance into school.

EP Collier Primary

New vehicle staff car park entrance on Ross Road.
Stopping up and reinstatement of footpaths at existing vehicle entrances on York Road.
Relocation of pedestrian barriers on York Road to reflect new pedestrian access into school.
Disabled pedestrian access ramp to new school entrance from Swansea Road
New cycle shelter & 6 Sheffield cycle stands for staff
Cycle store with 3 Sheffield cycle stands and scooter pod for 10 scooters for pupils
Cycle store with 9 Sheffield cycle stands for pupils

Ridgeway Primary School

School keep clear markings on Linden Road - to be re-marked
New school vehicle entrance on from highways land on Hillbrow - new vehicle only entrance to school
TRO - yellow lines on junction of Hillbrow / Whitley wood Road to prevent parking on junction.
2 new cycle shelters with 5 Sheffield cycle stands and scooter pods in each shelter for pupils
1 new cycle shelter with 10 Sheffield cycle stands for pupils
1 new cycle shelter with 5 Sheffield cycle stands for staff

Southcote Primary School

TRO - new school keep clear markings on Silchester road to protect new pedestrian entrance to school
2 new school car park entrance/exits on Silchester road to form new staff car park
Re-line marking of junction Silchester Road and Ross Road to accommodate new staff carpark entrance at junction
New cycle shelter with 5 Sheffield cycle stands for staff
New cycle shelter with scooter pod for 10 scooters for pupils
New pedestrian entrances into school on Silchester Road to reflect new access into school
New pedestrian entrance off highways footpath off Shepley Drive to improve pedestrian access into school

Alfred Sutton Primary School

A new entrance for vehicles in to the school car park

St Michaels Primary

2 pedestrian crossings on Dee Road outside St Michaels Primary and English Martyrs.

New pedestrian entrance into school on Dee Road to new reception playground

New pedestrian entrance into school on Dee Road for ks2 children

New cycle shelter with 5 Sheffield hoops

New cycle shelter with 10 Sheffield hoops

St Martin's Primary

Walking route signing

Relining of yellow 'keep clear'

Churchend Primary

New car park coming off Conwy Close

Pedestrian crossing over Conwy Close in front of school site

2 new cycle shelters

Tarmacing of footpath from Usk Road to Conwy Close

Need for bollard at end of Usk Road footpath to ensure use by pedestrians only

Hodsoll Road - new school

All new cycle shelters

Works on Hodsoll Road to create pedestrian crossings

New car park

Path along Victoria Park to provide off-street route for children coming from Oxford Road School as well as Civitas (new school) to the new pitch facilities.

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